EDUCATION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT of the Commissioners of Education in *Ireland*, for the Year 1868–69.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN POYNTZ, EARL SPENCER, K.G., LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL-GOVERNOR OF IRELAND, &c. &c. &c.

WE, "the Commissioners of Education in Ireland," constituted and appointed by an Act of Parliament passed in the 53rd year of the reign of His late Majesty King George the Third, and in obedience thereto, respectfully submit to your Excellency a General Report of the Proceedings of the Board since their last Report.

The powers and duties of this Commission, in reference to the various Schools of Royal and Private Foundation, being of a limited and not very clearly defined character and extent, and wholly divested of right or responsibility as to the appointment of Head Masters or Assistants, or of the power of granting any retiring salaries to parties however deserving, necessarily deprives our Annual Reports of much variety, confining them very much to a general statement of the actual condition of the Schools, of the School premises, and of the Estates forming their respective Endowments.

As regards the Royal School of Armagh, we beg to report to your Excellency that it has been formally notified to us, that the present Master has placed the resignation of his office (to take effect in August) in the hands of his Grace the Lord Primate, with whom the right to appoint his successor rests, and that we have every confidence that his Grace will select for that office a gentleman qualified to place this School in that high position of public estimation and utility which its very valuable Endowment and excellent situation appear to demand. We beg to state that the Schoolhouse and Premises, which are fully adapted for a very numerous attendance of pupils, whether boarders or day-boys, are in a very satisfactory state of repair.

In reference to Banagher Royal School, we beg to report to your Excellency that the resignation of the late Master having been, at length, fully carried out, and a new Master having been recently appointed by the Government, we are not in a position to do more than state that the School is now in operation, and that we have undertaken such repairs and works as have been reported to us to be absolutely required for carrying on the School.

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Of the Royal Schools of Enniskillen and Dungannon, we beg to report that these very extensive establishments are in a state of complete repair; and that the attendance of pupils at these Schools shows the continuance of public confidence in them. We beg further to state that since our last Report we have repaid to the Master of Dungannon Royal School another instalment of 400 *l.*, on account of the large amount heretofore advanced by him in payment for extensive alterations and improvements of the School premises, the plans and estimates for which had been previously submitted to, and approved of, by this Board; and we expect, before our next Annual Report, to repay the balance still remaining due to him.

The School-house, recently built by us, at the urgent solicitation of the tenants on the Dungannon School Estate has, we are happy to be able to state, been opened since our last Report, and the attendance of the children of the tenants at this Primary School has already so much exceeded the anticipated numbers, that we have determined to enlarge the building, and to appoint an additional teacher.

The number of pupils availing themselves of the Primary Schools opened by us for the tenantry on the Armagh, Raphoe, and Queen's County Estates, shows no material variation from former accounts.

Raphoe Royal School, notwithstanding its somewhat unfavourable position, continues to uphold the character to which we have referred in former Reports. And the Examiner, specially appointed to hold the examination at Christmas for the Annual School Prizes granted by us, made a most favourable report of the answering of the Candidates, and of the management of the School generally.

Of the Cavan and Carisfort Endowments, we do not feel called upon to make any special remarks to your Excellency.

The Royal Scholarships for pensioners and sizars (fellow-commoners not being eligible) in Trinity College, Dublin, have been, we feel, productive of much advantage, especially to those of limited means. And we beg here to submit a list of the present Exhibitioners, and the amounts payable to each, and a copy of our rules in reference to them, specially calling your Excellency's notice to the fact that these valuable distinctions are obtainable solely as the reward of merit after a severe competitive Examination in a very extensive course pointed out, and from time to time varied by us, that they cannot continue to be held unless certain honours and distinctions are annually obtained by the holders, and that thus continuous and successful exertion is secured.

On the Armagh Royal School Foundation:

	£.		£.
E. P. Riddall - -	50 per annum.	A. L. Wade - -	10 per annum.
J. Stanley - -	50 „	J. G. Silcock - -	25 „
W. W. Orr - -	35 „	C. Reeves - -	25 „
W. B. Lindesay -	35 „	T. Fullarton - -	10 „

On the Cavan Royal School Foundation:

W. Doherty - - - - - £. 25 per annum.

On

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On the Dungannon Royal School Foundation:

	£.		£.
T. H. Crossley	50 per annum.	E. Bell	35 per annum.
R. C. M'Kell	30 „	D. F. Kelly	50 „
S. Woodhouse	50 „	W. J. Ewing	30 „
R. Ringwood	50 „	W. Conry	30 „
G. N. Oulton	50 „	W. B. Smyth	25 „

On the Enniskillen Royal School Foundation:

	£.		£.
H. Norman	50 per annum.	W. Gunning	40 per annum.
G. Hetherington	45 „	S. Haughton	30 „
M. H. Little	50 „	T. E. Hackett	50 „
T. Gordon	30 „	J. D. Bourchier	50 „
F. B. Dickson	50 „	R. M'Minn	15 „

The Middleton School, which is one of private foundation, continues in a flourishing condition; and the visitors of this School speak in terms of high commendation of the satisfactory condition of the School, and of the establishment generally.

From the Navan and Ballyroan Foundation (Queen's County), we have to state that we have, since our last Report, paid over to the Governors of the King's Hospital (commonly called the Bluecoat School), the annual proportion of the net rents and profits to which that establishment is entitled.

As regards the various other Schools of private foundation, nothing has arisen since our last Report calling for special notice to your Excellency. And we beg to report to your Excellency that the different Schoolhouses and Premises under our care are kept in substantial repair by such outlays as are from time to time stated to be necessary, and that they are now generally in a satisfactory condition.

The unsatisfactory condition of some of the Diocesan Schools, and the law as to them, has been so frequently reported by us, together with the circumstance that the Diocesan School system is now under the consideration of the Legislature, render it unnecessary that we should further refer to this subject.

As to the Estates which constitute the Endowments of the several Schools of public and private foundation, and which are under our control, we beg to state that they are in a generally satisfactory condition, that the rents are fairly paid, and that on all there is a total absence of agrarian crime or outrage. The administration of these Estates necessarily occupies much of our time and attention.

All which we respectfully submit to your Excellency as our Report.

(signed) SAMUEL MEATH. (L.S.)
H. LLOYD, Provost, T. C. D. (L.S.)
LOWRY EDMONDS BERKELEY. (L.S.)
J. G. PORTER. (L.S.)
WILLIAM BROOKE. (L.S.)
J. D. FITZGERALD. (L.S.)
WILLIAM B. KIRKPATRICK, D. D. (L.S.)

Wm. Cotter Kyle, LL. D., M. R. I. A.,
Secretary.

8, Clare-street, Dublin, 5 June 1869.

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REGULATIONS of "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland," as to the Royal Scholars.—1869.

"The Commissioners of Education in Ireland" have founded 30 Exhibitions, called "Royal Scholarships," for students who shall enter Trinity College from the Royal Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, or Cavan, viz., five scholarships of 50*l.* per annum each for Armagh School; and five of 50*l.* per annum, and five of 30*l.* per annum for each of the Schools of Dungannon and Enniskillen; and five of 25*l.* per annum for Cavan School.

The Scholarships can be obtained by such students only as have been at least three years in all, previously to their entrance into Trinity College, pupils in some one or other of the Royal Schools. It is not, however, hereby intended to prevent pupils from moving from one of them to another; but the Scholarships founded for the respective Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, and Cavan, can be obtained only by students who have entered the University from the schools for which such Scholarships have been founded.

The Scholarships are tenable for five years from the time of their being obtained, subject to certain conditions hereafter mentioned.

The Provost and Senior Fellows have signified their willingness to appoint Examiners in each year, to examine, on the first convenient day after the second entrance, in the month of October, such students as shall have entered from the said four Royal Schools, and shall offer themselves as candidates for these Scholarships.

In 1869 the examination will be in the course prescribed for entrance into T.C.D. (omitting Virgil's Æneid, Xenophon, and Lucian); in the Sixth Book of Herodotus, and in passages taken from such Greek and Latin authors as are not part of the T.C.D. entrance course.

In translating French into English.

In Modern Geography.

In such a knowledge of English literature, and the history of English literature, as may be derived from the First, Second, and Third Books of Milton's "Paradise Lost," Johnson's Lives of Milton, Dryden, Addison, Swift, and Pope, and two of Shakspeare's Plays, viz., "King Lear," and "Measure for Measure."

In History—

Ancient.—Genesis—Exodus, ch. i.-xx. incl.—the historical part of Numbers—the Book of Joshua—I. Sam.—II. Sam.—I. & II. Kings—and Smith's Sacred History, first twenty-four chapters, excluding the appendices.
Grecian.—William Smith's.
Roman.—Liddell's smaller History of Rome.
English.—Student's Hume's History.

In Science—

Euclid—Books I. II. III. VI., excluding all deducibles.
Algebra—to the end of Quadratic Equations, excluding the theory of Equations.
Arithmetic—As in the T.C.D. entrance course.

Note.—The course of examination for Royal Scholarships will be, from time to time, varied by the Commissioners.

The examination will be carried on mainly by means of written papers; and, in addition to the examination by papers in the various authors, each examiner may, at his discretion, examine the candidate *vivâ voce* in one author.

The examination in History and Geography will be *vivâ voce*.

The proficiency of the candidates in Greek, Latin, and English Composition will be particularly inquired into; and also their knowledge of the rules of Greek and Latin versification. Especial attention will be paid to the examination in Ancient and Modern History and Geography.

No fellow-commoner can be admitted as a candidate for a Royal Scholarship.

No pensioner shall be admitted as a candidate for a Royal Scholarship who shall not have remained at one of the Royal Schools to which the Scholarships are attached till an October entrance examination in T.C.D. of the same year as the examination for Royal Scholarships, at which he may be a candidate.

No sizar shall be admitted as a candidate, who shall not have remained at such Royal School till the sizarship entrance examination immediately preceding the examination for Royal Scholarships, at which he may be a candidate.

No student who shall have attained 20 years of age shall be permitted to become a candidate for a Royal Scholarship. The age of the candidate must be proved to the satisfaction of the schoolmaster, and certified by him.

No student shall be elected a Royal Scholar unless he shall have, previously to the examination for Royal Scholarships, produced to the Secretary of the Commissioners a certificate

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certificate signed by the Master of the Royal School from which he shall have entered T.C.D., certifying that such candidate is duly qualified according to the above-stated rules.

The candidates from each school shall be examined together, and a return made to the Commissioners of their positive merit; and also an arrangement of the candidates according to their answering, without distinction of schools; the Commissioners reserving to themselves the power of suspending or diminishing one or more Scholarships, if sufficient merit has not been shown.

In cases of equality of merit, in all other respects, the poverty of a candidate will be taken into consideration. A student who has once been a candidate cannot be eligible on a subsequent occasion.

Students when appointed to these Scholarships may retain them for five years from the time of their election, provided that, proceeding regularly with their respective classes, they obtain in each year of their undergraduate course one honour of the first rank, or two honours of the second rank. The election itself to one of these Scholarships being reckoned as equivalent to one honour of the second rank, obtained in the junior freshman year; an University Moderatorship obtained in the senior sophister year, an University Scholarship, in whatever year obtained, the Berkeley Gold Medal, the Lloyd Exhibition, the Wray Prize, success in the first Indian Civil Service (competitive) examination, success at the Woolwich entrance examination, will rank as University honours of the first class; obtaining a respondency; success at any of the subsequent Indian Civil Service examinations will rank as an University honour of the second rank.

A Royal Scholarship shall become forfeited by the holder of it incurring any heavy collegiate censure, such as public admonition, or rustication; or when all the examinations of any year have elapsed without his having obtained in that year one honour of the first rank, or two honours of the second rank, or what is stated in the preceding regulations as equivalent to these honours respectively.

The exhibitions become due half-yearly, viz., on the 1st of May and on the 1st of November. Payments will be made in May to such students only as have obtained in the preceding part of that year at least one honour of the second rank. A half-yearly payment, held over in May, will be made in November, provided an honour has been obtained in the meantime; and payment for the entire year will be made in November to such students as had not qualified for the May half-year's payment, and shall have then fulfilled all the requisites for the entire year.

In cases where very distinguished merit has been shown during their undergraduate course by students holding minor Scholarships, and where Scholarships for the same school remain suspended, or have been forfeited, the Commissioners will, at the close of each year, receive memorials from such distinguished students for an increase of their stipend.

RESOLUTIONS of the Board of Trinity College, Dublin, adopted in compliance with the wishes of "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland."

Resolved,—That the scholars appointed from the Royal Schools by "The Commissioners of Education, in Ireland," be permitted to wear velvet caps, and that their names be in the College books, immediately after the names of the University scholars, without, however, altering their degree of seniority amongst their class-fellows.

MIDLETON SCHOOL.

"The Commissioners of Education in Ireland" will grant annually two prizes, one of 30 *l.* and one of 20 *l.*, to such junior freshmen as shall, subject to the rules prescribed for the Royal Schools, have entered Trinity College, Dublin, from Midleton School; and having been examined along with and in the same course as the candidates for the Royal Scholarships, shall be recommended by the examiner as deserving candidates.

(signed) *William Cotter Kyle*, LL.D.,
Secretary to "The Commissioners of Education in Ireland."

8, Clare-street, 19 December 1868.

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EDUCATION (IRELAND).

ANNUAL REPORT of the COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION in *Ireland*, for the Year 1868–69.

(Presented pursuant to Act of Parliament.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
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